

ATTACHMENT - REMARKS

By this Amendment, claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form to contain the allowable subject indicated by the examiner and for greater clarity. Other previously pending claims have also been amended consistent with the changes to claim 18 and/or for clarity, or canceled. In addition, new independent claim 23 and dependent claims 24-31 have been added, having similar allowable subject matter to amended independent claim 18 and its dependent claims. It is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance for the following reasons.

Initially in the *Information Disclosure Statement* section of the DETAILED ACTION, the examiner noted that some references mentioned in the specification had not been provided in an IDS and hence were not considered. Therefore, provided herewith an IDS including the references noted in the specification and not previously cited by applicant.

In the following *Claim Objections* section of the Action, claims 5-22 were objected to for not having a preamble consistent with claim 1 from which they depended. By this Amendment, it will be appreciated that claim 1 has now been canceled, and claim 18 written in independent form (as discussed in detail below), so that this objection is no longer applicable.

In the *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112* section, claims 1-22 were all rejected as being indefinite. By this Amendment, claim 18 has been written in independent form in a self-evident manner to be definite. In addition, the remaining claims 6-8, 10-12 and 19-22 dependent therefrom have also been amended consistent with the changes to

claim 18 as well as to be definite in a self-evident manner. It is therefore submitted that this rejection as applicable to the presently pending claims has now been overcome.

In the *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102 and § 103* sections, claims 1-12 were variously rejected as being anticipated by or obvious over one or more references as noted. However, in the following *Allowable Subject Matter* section, the examiner indicated that dependent claims 13-22 all contained allowable subject matter. This indication of allowable subject matter is appreciated.

By this Amendment, the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 18, directed to the embodiment depicted in figure 10, has been rewritten in independent form by adding the subject matters as appropriate of the claims from which claim 18 previously depended. It will be noted that while claim 18 does not include all of the subject matter of claim 1 from which it previously depended, it is submitted that the omitted subject matter of claim 1 does not relate to the panel depicted in figure 10 and the allowable subject matter thereof as previously defined in claim 18, so that claim 18 continues to contain the same allowable subject matter as found by the examiner.

As independent claim 18 is now allowable, it is submitted that claims 6-8, 10-12 and 19-22 dependent therefrom are likewise all allowable.

Finally, new independent claim 23 includes the allowable subject matter of claim 18 as well, though new claim 23 is directed to the panel alone; and without reference to the system of suspended panels of claim 18 and reciting a "flexible sheet of material" rather than the "fabric" of claim 18 (which fabric is now recited in new claim 31). It is submitted that new claim 23 contains the same allowable subject matter of claim 18, so that claim 23 is also allowable. And for those same reasons, it is submitted that new

claims 24-31 dependent from claim 23 (similar in subject matter to dependent claims 10-12 and 19-22) are likewise allowable.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and such action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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